

April 6, 1998

The Honorable John M. McHugh Chairman House Subcommittee on the Postal Service Room B-349C Rayburn Building Washington, DC 20515-6147

Dear Chairman McHugh:

On behalf of the Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association (EPVA), I would like to submit our comments to HR22, the Postal Reform Act of 1997, and the proposed revisions to HR22. Specifically, I would like to convey EPVA's strong support of the revision to Section 503, which would allow for Revenue Foregone to continue.

EPVA is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of veterans with spinal cord injury or disease by ensuring quality health care, promoting research and advocating for civil rights and independence. EPVA provides services designed to help its members and other persons with disabilities lead full and productive lives. EPVA is the largest chapter of the congressionally chartered Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), and serves over 2,100 members in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut.

EPVA urges you to adopt the proposed revision to Section 503 of HR22. As a not-for-profit organization, EPVA depends heavily on mailings for communication with our members and in getting our message to the general public. As a result, our concern with HR22 lies solely on the impact, if any, on postage rates for non-profits. For this reason, EPVA wholeheartedly supports the revision to Section 503 of HR22 that would drop the repeal of Revenue Forgone. Revenue Forgone supplies a vital appropriation to supplement the reduced mailing rates that we rely so heavily upon to operate programs on behalf of paralyzed veterans and all people with disabilities.

Again, we respectfully request that HR22 provides for the continuation of authorizations of appropriations for Revenue Foregone, as it is integral to our ability to serve paralyzed veterans and the entire disability community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

JAMES J. PETERS
Executive Director